including films, be recognized under IDBI Act as an approved activity under the industrial concern;

(b) if so, to what extent this decision will help the films industry;

(c) whether under this decision the films and entertainment industry will get all the facilities of access to Bank loans; and

(d) if so, to what extent this decision will improve the entertainment industry?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) In May 1998, the Minister for Information and Broadcasting had announced that status of industry would be given to the Film sector mainly with the intention of making the sector eligible for institutional financing in the areas of film production and distribution. A formal decision in the form of specifying Entertainment, including the film sector, as an "Industrial concern" under the IDBI Act, has been taken and a notification for the same issued by the Ministry of Finance. This would enable the Film sector to seek finance from financial institutions subject to conditions specified by such institutions being fulfilled by the applicant.

Restoration of ealier time slot to Aaj Tak

†1509. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for reducing the time for popular programme Aaj Tak on metro channel of Doordarshan being telecast at 10 O'clock in the night and allotting the same time slot to the programme Aankhon Dekhi;

(b) whether Government are considering to telecast Aaj Tak again at the earlier time; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.